

June 2020

garden time

A Digital Monthly Magazine for Your Garden & Home



**Culinary
Lavender**
Color Me
Delicious

ANLD Garden Tours
Garden Watering Systems
BARN OWL NURSERY'S
Chris Mulder



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Recovery

This month's editorial is a tough one to write. As the spring has gone on we have seen plant sales, festivals and other garden events canceled almost on a daily basis. This current Covid-19 crisis has everyone on edge. Lucky for us gardeners the local garden centers were considered essential and so we've been able to shop for plants and other gardening supplies at our favorite garden centers. Still, a lot of the gardening industry is taking a big hit. Family owned businesses and festivals are suffering, and they are really in need of our help. Please consider the locally owned garden businesses when you go out shopping this spring. Once this crisis has passed the recovery could take a while, but as gardeners, we know about recovery. We watch plants in our gardens recover from wind, rain and hail, and the garden as a whole returns every year in full glory for us to enjoy. It's a good lesson for us to take away during this tough time. The coming months will be hard, but we can do it. Don't forget, sometimes a recovery needs a little help. Let's look out for others as we weather this storm. Be kind, always be kind.

In this month's issue we focus on the upcoming summer and how to get ready for those hot days ahead. Ron tackles two stories that both deal with water. The first article is about your watering systems and how to pick one that works for the needs of your garden. The second story is similar in that it deals with garden hoses. Your success, and mental health, can easily be tied to a quality garden hose. Pick the wrong hose and you could be wrestling with Medusa. Ron will show us you don't have to be Perseus to solve this problem. We also have two more articles that are tied together in a similar topic, lavender. Judy will introduce us to Chris Mulder, a lavender grower in Wilsonville. Chris is a lavender guru and her nursery is a little slice of heaven. It should be on everyone's list once things open up again. Chris is a great source for lavender information to anyone who asks, which brings us to the second story, the 'Eats' for this month is about culinary lavender. Therese asked Chris about lavenders that you can use in recipes and other edible uses. It is amazing how many uses there are for lavender, either fresh or dried, in the kitchen. We just recently enjoyed a sprinkling of some 'Herbs de Provence' on our morning eggs. Some of those blends can include lavender flowers. Delicious and versatile lavender. Finally, are you looking for an adventure. This month we found we had a problem with picking an adventure. Due to the lockdown and the cancelation of many events we found ourselves between a rock and a hard place, but the ANLD came to our rescue. The Association of Northwest Landscape Designers (ANLD) usually has their big garden tour in June and even though it has been canceled for 2020, Ryan shows us how you can tour past featured gardens through the wonderful ANLD website. You can enjoy the beauty of a well-designed garden without getting off the couch!

As we recover this coming summer from a crazy spring, we hope that everyone is safe and healthy.

Happy Gardening!

Jeff Gustin, Publisher

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Garden Time's Iconic Spokesflower Answers Your Questions!



Ask Mortimer

Dear Mortimer,

I have been using crushed and cut-up garlic mixed in water to permeate the smell and spray on the grass and chunks of garlic in mole hills to keep the pests away.. It seems to work for me. Unfortunately when it rains the smell goes away and they come back. Is this the best 'organic' way to get rid of them?

Looking for a solution,
Carol

Carol,

Where some people are happy to let a mole have the run of the garden, others like you are looking for ways to rid your garden of moles, voles and gophers. We have talked about this in the past when I have advised the Garden Time show staff. Where traps and poisons are semi-permanent (other moles will find their way into your garden, possibly using the same tunnels) and could be dangerous to your garden and other living creatures, deterrents and other natural solutions are also semi-effective too. Moles are very resilient!

In addition to your recipe, we have heard about other natural solutions including mixtures that incorporate castor oil. The popular recipe for that includes mixing six ounces of castor oil, a couple tablespoons of liquid soap in a gallon of water and applying that to your lawn. However once the rains return, all your hard work is gone. There are even popular products like Mole Max from Bonide (www.bonide.com) that use castor oil in a natural pellet to accomplish the same deterrent effect.



Moles: resilient but destructive.

Mortimer answers selected questions and comments every month in Garden Time Magazine. To send him your question, email AskMortimer@GardenTime.tv

If you are looking for other natural ways to control moles have you considered plants. A few years ago we found out from our friends at Wooden Shoe Bulbs that you can plant daffodils around your tulips to keep moles and deer away. Other flowers that are thought to be effective include marigolds and anything in the onion family. Be careful if you plant castor bean plants as they can be harmful to pets and children.

We wish you the best and hope you and your garden stay healthy this summer.

Mortimer

.

Dear Mortimer,

I heard from my grandmother that you will get a better vegetable harvest if you plant marigolds around your garden. Something about keeping pests away. Is that true?

Signed,
Curious in Camas

Dear Curious,

Your grandmother was right on target about marigolds in the garden, specifically French



French Marigold

PHOTO CREDIT: WIKIPEDIA



PHOTO CREDIT: PATRICK G VIA FLICKR CREATIVE COMMONS

marigolds, though other varieties will work well too. Here are a few of the reasons why you need marigolds in your garden. First, they are an attractant plant for predatory insects. That means it pulls in the good insects to take care of the bad insects. Number two, they are easy to grow. They don't mind different soil types and they thrive in the full sun. You can buy them or grow them from seed. Plus they can reseed so you get them back year after year. A welcome volunteer to the annual garden. Third, there are people that say they are a deterrent for deer, moles, aphids, mosquitoes and cabbage moths. Some of that information is proven, but other results are incidental. It doesn't hurt to try them in your garden and see if they work for you.

Plus one of the biggest benefits is that they are pollinator friendly! If you attract pollinators to your garden you can end up with a bigger harvest because of better pollination.

So you can see, grandma knew a lot about gardening. She had a great garden surrounded by great color too!

Enjoy your garden and don't forget to visit your grandma to say thank you,

Mortimer

Color Me Delicious

**There's a lot more
to lavender than
meets the eye...
or the nose!**

by Therese Gustin



Drying Lavender

PHOTO CREDIT: QUATTROSTAGIONI VIA FLICKR.COM

One thing I have found as I 'stay at home' during this coronavirus pandemic is that I have more time to experiment with cooking. I've been rediscovering old favorite recipes and discovering new recipes using surprising ingredients. As much as I love cooking with different herbs, I have little experience cooking or baking with one particular herb... lavender. So I decided to ask a local expert, Chris Mulder, owner of Barn Owl Nursery-Herb and Lavender Farm in Wilsonville, about the best varieties of lavender for culinary use and if she would share some of her favorite recipes!

June is the beginning of the lavender bloom season. It's the perfect time to shop for this attractive, fragrant herb at Barn Owl Nursery, your favorite independent nursery or a lavender farm near you. There are so many great reasons to add lavender to your landscape...the fragrant flowers attract pollinators, lavender has very few insect pests, once established it is drought tolerant, it comes in a wide array of colors and sizes and some varieties

are great to use in baking and in your savory dishes. I asked Chris which varieties she prefers for culinary use and why?

"For culinary use, I prefer some of the darkest violet-blue and some white and pink buds and flowers, from English lavender cultivars. Here are some of my favorites:

- Folgate (dark violet-blue buds and flowers)
- French Fields (dark violet-blue buds and flowers. It's the earliest lavender to bloom in June and I harvest a lot of this cultivar and package it as my own culinary lavender)
- Imperial Gem (darkest purple-blue buds and flowers)
- Melissa (white and light pink buds and flowers)

- Opal Rain (white buds and light pink flowers)
- Royal Velvet (darkest purple-blue buds and flowers)

The lavender varieties with the darkest purple-blue buds and flowers are the most striking to use and have a lot of visual appeal. They really stand out in the foods and beverages they are paired with. Whole lavender buds are used most often to add flavor to sweet and savory recipes and they make a lovely garnish for many foods and beverages. The whole buds can be steeped in water and other liquids to impart a lavender flavor, and then strained out of the liquid that will be used, and discarded."

Each variety of English lavender has its own unique essential oil fragrance. Some give off a delicate sweet aroma and some cultivars are sweeter than others. Chris recommends these cultivars be used in sweet foods and beverages. Cultivars with a stronger aroma are best used in savory dishes and beverages.

Chris explains "The essential oil is concentrated in the buds (calyxes) and flowers (corollas) and that is the best part of the lavender to use as culinary lavender. I do not use lavender leaves in my products or for culinary purposes.. When the fresh buds and flowers are used in cooking they add a delicate flavor. If using dried lavender, expect a stronger flavor and use less. Fresh lavender can be used as a garnish for foods and beverages and dried lavender buds can either be used whole or ground up." Chris recommends starting with a small amount of lavender in recipes as too much can overwhelm a dish. You can always add more if you want a more intense lavender flavor.

If you would like to dry your lavender, be sure to cut it on a dry day and preferably at bud stage with only a few flowers open. Gather small bunches in your hand and cut long stems. Secure each small bunch of lavender with a rubber band. Strip off the leaves on the stems and hang the bunches upside down in a dry warm area with good air circulation, out of direct sunlight. (Some garages will do.) Steer clear of kitchens and bathrooms with high humid-

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Oregon Lavender Destinations

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PHOTO CREDIT: STEVE JOHNSON VIA FLICKR.COM



PHOTO CREDIT: MONROVIA.COM



Lavender Field

ity. After about a week or two, the dried buds and flowers can be removed from the stems. Put on cotton gloves to protect your hands and the dried culinary lavender. Turn the bundles upside down and rub the buds off the stems between both hands over a glass or stainless steel bowl. Glass or stainless steel will not react with the essential oils in the lavender. Clean the buds by straining out any leaves and pic-

es of stem with a stainless steel colander or sieve. Store the clean dried lavender buds in a glass jar or stainless steel container with a tight fitting lid in a cool dark place. Chris also recommends storing dried lavender in jars in the freezer until ready to use.

The Oregon Lavender Association has put out a Lavender Recipe Trifold and is selling it to raise a little money for the non-profit

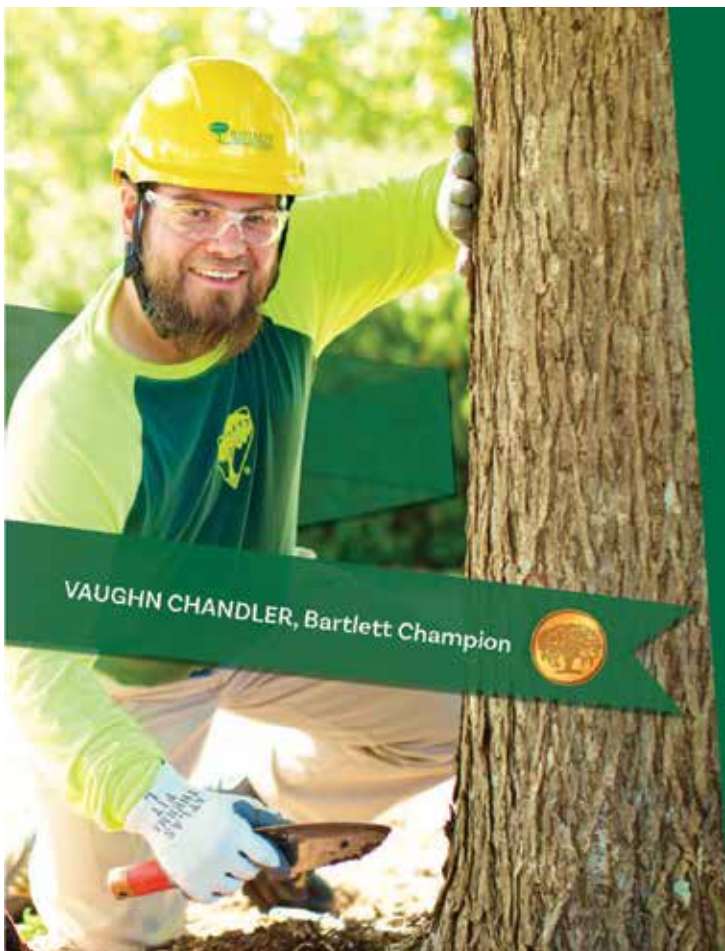
organization. Check with your local lavender farm to purchase a copy. Some farms sell them online. So while you are staying at home add some culinary lavender plants to your garden this spring and you can open up a whole new cooking experience with lavender.

**SEE PAGES 10 & 11 FOR
SOME DELICIOUS LAVENDER
RECIPES YOU CAN TRY!**



Lavender in the gardens of Audley End House in Exxex, England.

PHOTO CREDIT: PETER TAYLOR VIA FLICKR CREATIVE COMMONS



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Lavender Honey Cookies

Recipe from Chris Mulder, Barn Owl Nursery

2 1/2 cups rolled oats
 2 cups shredded, unsweetened coconut
 1 1/2 cups unbleached white flour
 1 cup (2 sticks) unsalted butter
 1 cup packed brown sugar

1 Tablespoon dried, culinary lavender

1/2 cup lavender honey

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Combine oats, coconut and flour in a large stainless steel mixing bowl. Set aside. In a stainless steel saucepan, bring butter, sugar, lavender buds and lavender honey to a boil. Remove from heat and stir well. Pour butter mixture over the dry ingredients and mix well with a wooden spoon or spatula. Cool slightly then roll into small balls. Bake for about 3-5 minutes. Do not over bake or they will be too hard. Cool cookies and store in an airtight container. These cookies freeze well.

This recipe will make around 4-5 dozen bite size cookies.

Lavender Cookies

Recipe from Chris Mulder, Barn Owl Nursery

1/2 cup lavender sugar
 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, softened
 1 egg, beaten
 1 1/8 cups unbleached, white flour

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F.

Mix lavender sugar in a food processor or blender.

In a mixing bowl, cream butter with lavender sugar. Add egg and flour and mix well. Roll dough into small balls and place on a lightly greased cookie sheet.

Bake for about 8 minutes.

These cookies freeze well.

Fruit or Berry Lavender Crisp

Recipe from Chris Mulder, Barn Owl Nursery

2 T unsalted butter
6 c fresh, seasonal fruit or berries,
or a combination
1 T dried culinary lavender buds
1/3 c honey, (lavender honey,
if not using lavender sugar)
1 T fresh, grated lemon peel

Topping:

1/2 c granulated sugar, (lavender sugar, if not using lavender honey)
1/4 cup brown sugar
1 c flour
10 T unsalted butter
1/2 cup chopped, blanched almonds, optional

Butter a 10 x 10 inch glass, ceramic or stainless steel baking dish with 2 T butter. Set aside. Toss fruit with the dried lavender buds. Place fruit in the buttered baking dish. Drizzle with honey and sprinkle with lemon peel.

Topping: Combine the sugars and flour in a mixing bowl, cut in butter with a pastry cutter or knives until mixture is the texture of coarse bread crumbs; gently stir in almonds. Sift crumbled topping evenly over fruit and bake in a 375 degree oven until the top is golden brown and the fill-

ing bubbles, about 30 minutes. Serve warm, with vanilla ice cream or whipped cream, if desired. Serves 8

Suggestions: Fresh, seasonal fruits and berries can be used alone or in different combinations. Here are some suggestions of different fruits to try in this recipe.

Cut Up Fruits: apples, apricots, cherries, peaches, pears, plums

Whole Berries: blackberries, blueberries, Marionberries, raspberries

Berry/Fruit: Combinations

- 3 cups chopped apples with 3 cups of any one of the berries
- 3 cups chopped apricots with 3 cups of any one of the berries
- 3 cups cherries with 3 cups apricots, peaches or pears
- 3 cups chopped peaches or pears with 3 cups blueberries or Marionberries
- 3 cups chopped plums with 3 cups chopped pears
- 3 cups raspberries with 3 cups apricots, peaches or pears
- 6 cups mixed berries, try different combinations
- 6 cups mixed fruit, try different combinations



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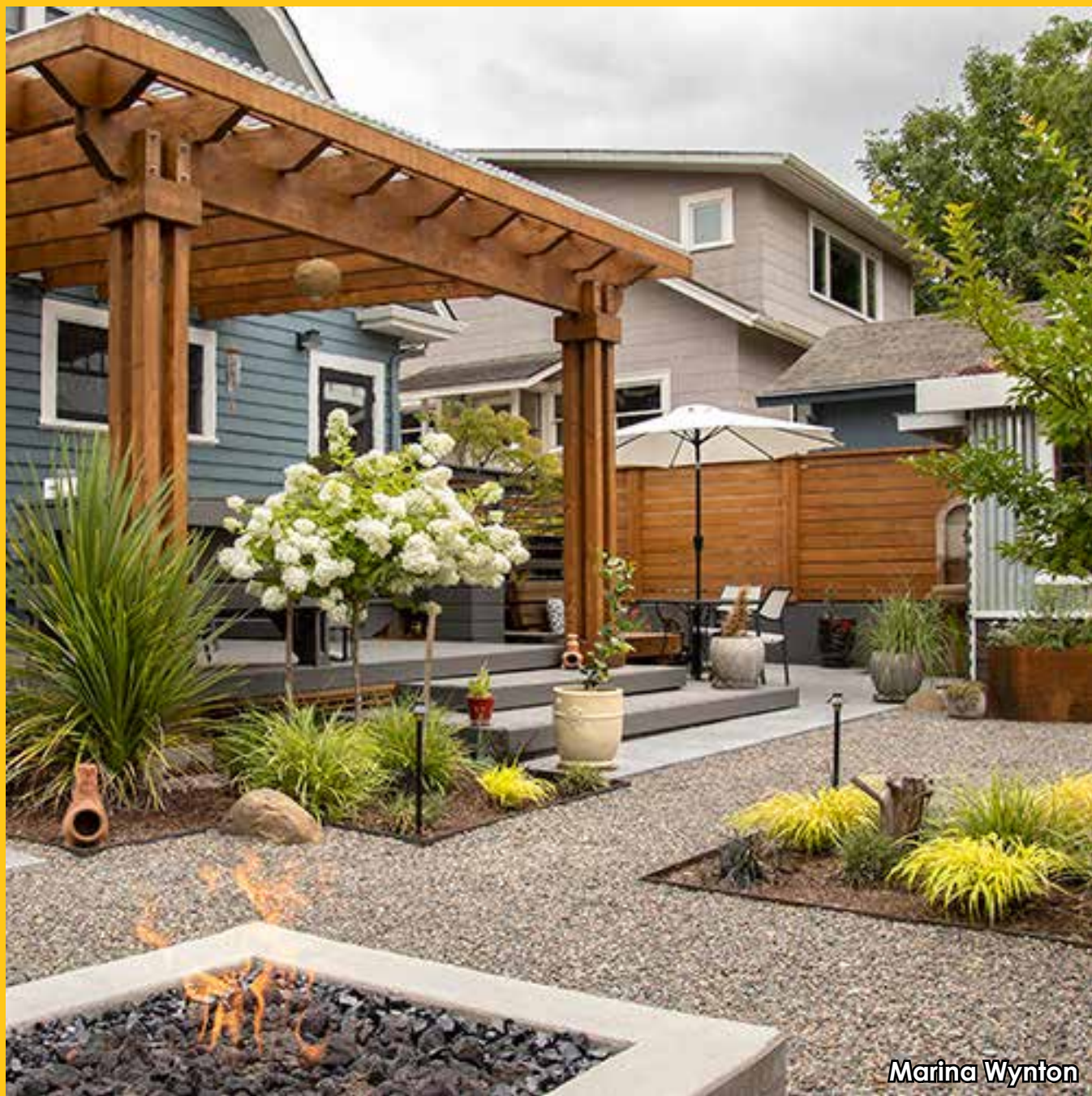
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Marina Wynnton

Paradise Postponed

This year's tour is on hold, but if you dream of an outdoor makeover, the Association of Northwest Landscape Designers is a great resource.

by Ryan Seely

During these unusual times, many of us have started a multitude of projects in and around our homes. I for one have had a host of unpleasant chores including painting the shutters, replacing our front door, and power-washing the house. However, once those tasks were ticked off my list, I was able to begin focusing on my garden, just like many of you. I am enjoying planting, digging, moving, and re-planting my well-established garden, while dreaming of re-designing in the near future, much to the chagrin of my lovely wife!

I imagine I am not the only person who dreams of an outdoor make-over, and many of us likely don't know where to start. A great resource for creating or re-designing your garden is to employ the services of a landscape designer. Typically, landscape designers are independent professionals, although some work closely with local landscaping companies or independent garden centers. Landscape designers possess a unique blend of horticultural knowledge and artistry, and as many of them are solo business professionals, they rely on a professional association to ensure continuing education and networking opportunities.

That's where the Association of Northwest Landscape Designers (ANLD) comes into play. Founded in 1985, the ANLD is a non-profit organization where landscape designers connect and share ideas that improve their craft and to ensure beautiful Pacific Northwest landscapes. Their membership is primarily comprised of landscape designers, but also contractors, nursery owners and others in the nursery and landscaping trade. Landscape designers are trained in the art of design and the science of horticulture. They create visual plans that make the best use of outdoor spaces in the most attractive ways, primarily in residential settings. Landscape contractors specialize in installing those plans. Some landscape designers are also contractors.



Where Will a Capitol Subaru Take You?



Local Events June 2020

Due to venue closures imposed by state and local governments, many gardening-related events have been cancelled or postponed. We encourage you to visit the websites of the nurseries or organizations sponsoring specific events to make sure you are reading the most accurate and up-to-date information.

We encourage you to obey the restrictions of your locality, wear a mask and follow social distancing guidelines. Remember, you're not doing it for yourself, you're doing it for your family, friends and neighbors.

Several local venues, while closed, are posting virtual tours of their gardens. Check the information on the Events page of the Garden Time website (www.gardentime.tv) for links and enjoy these wonders from a safe place.

We're all in this together.



In past years, the ANLD has hosted a garden tour during the summer months, featuring beautiful and innovative gardens in the Pacific Northwest. Sadly, due to the pandemic, this year's garden tour has been postponed until 2021. They are currently evaluating whether or not a virtual tour or other events are possible. To stay current on their upcoming events, please visit their website.

Just because the garden tour has been postponed doesn't mean that you can't take advantage of the services the ANLD's members offer. Many designers are able to consult with clients on their gardens in a safe, socially-distant manner. To get started, we would recommend that you visit the ANLD website for a listing of their membership directory. The directory includes a short biography for each designer, including their educational background, and description of their business. Once you have narrowed down your designers, the next step is to set up a phone interview with the designer. Below is a quick list of questions you might want to ask your potential designer:

- Qualifications or specialization
- Education and certifications
- Experience
- Project types and preferences
- References
- Portfolio of completed landscape projects

Once you have selected a designer, the next step is an in-person meeting. Preparation is key, and we would recommend that you collect pictures and articles of gardens you like, as well as plants, colors and fragrances that you prefer. Other



David West



Linda Meyer



Linda Meyer Marlene



Carol Lindsay

questions your designer may ask you at the in-person meeting might include.

- How do you plan to use your outdoor living space?
- Who will be using the yard and what will they do there?
- How long do you plan to live in your home?
- Do you want someone to consult or to work on trouble spots in your yard?
- Does your yard need a complete make-over?
- What is your budget for installation?
- How much time and money do you want to spend on upkeep?
- Are you a "do-it-yourself" person who needs only a plan to tackle the installation on your own?
- Do you prefer a landscape designer to take the project all the way through to completion?

With the information collected from the meeting, the landscape designer will then prepare a comprehensive plan for your specific needs. Fees for their services may either be an hourly or a per project fee, and are agreed to in advance.

Gardens designed by landscape designers are thoughtful, living expressions of art. We are fortunate that the Pacific Northwest has access to so many qualified professionals who invest their time and talents creating sustainable gardens that we can enjoy for many years to come.

**Association of Northwest
Landscape Designers**

<https://anld.com>

You Can Lead a Hose to Water...

...but how well it works, how
long it lasts, and whether it
becomes a tangled mess
depends on what you buy.

by Ron Dunevant

It doesn't take much for a nicely coiled hose to turn into a tangled mess.

PHOTO CREDIT: JEREMY SERGROTT VIA FLICKR CREATIVE COMMONS



Just look at it... innocently lying there... like a serpent waiting to strike.

"It is the bane of my existence!" For a gardener, this lament could apply to any number of troublesome flora, fauna or situations. Rodents? Probably. The weather? At times. Weeds? Most definitely! How about the garden hose? Now *there* is a burden that truly belongs in a category of its own.

Even the most casual gardener has faced the trials inflicted by these temperamental tormenters. They leak. They tangle. On a cool morning, they're stiff and unyielding. On a hot afternoon, they're limp and kink with the slightest tug. They can turn a casual jaunt into a wrestling match worthy of the WWE. For as much as we depend on them, they consistently disappoint us.

We are told that a good garden hose should last from five to ten years, but ultimately, lifespan of your hose depends upon a lot of variables. How long is the hose? How often do you use it? Does it get a lot of sun exposure? Does it

stay outside over the winter? Many gardeners end up replacing their hoses annually or every couple of years, due to leaks, cracks, rot or tangles. And while hoses can be repaired, it is often more cost effective just to replace them.

So what distinguishes a good hose from a bad hose? Often times, they're one and the same. Hoses aren't *born* bad. It's their environment and the way we treat them that determines their fate... and ours. Purchase the right kind of hose for the job, your yard and the conditions, and you may even come to love this bad boy of the backyard, this irritator of the irritators, if you will.

Let's start with the basics. Most garden hoses are made of vinyl, rubber or a combination of both. Vinyl is the least expensive and lightest in weight. As you might expect, though, it is also the least sturdy, more prone to splitting, cracking and kinking and can degrade when exposed to harsh

weather or prolonged sunlight.

Rubber hoses will generally last the longest, but are heavier and will cost more. They are less likely to kink, crack or deteriorate and, can carry hot water. If you have room in your budget and everything else is equal, get the rubber hose.

If our options stopped there, it would be an easy choice. But, of course, they don't. Go into any "big box" store and you may see dozens of these seductive serpents lining the aisle. "Premium Duty." "Heavy Duty." "Light Duty." "Kink-Free." "Hybrid Polymer." "Swivel Grip." You practically need a master's degree in science to decipher this complicated code. But for most of us, it's the basics on which we need to focus.

The first thing to consider when choosing a hose is its length. Garden hoses usually come in 25, 50, 75 and 100 foot sizes and it's tempting to think that getting the longest hose makes the most

sense. We can just use what we need, and we'll have some extra, "just in case."

That's our first mistake. Longer hoses are heavier and therefore harder to drag around the yard. And, like a chain, a hose is only as good as it's "weakest link." The more hose you have, the more places there are for something to go wrong.

So, buy only as much hose as you need for the jobs you perform on a regular basis. For a balcony or deck, a 25-foot garden hose should be sufficient. For the average urban yard, a 50-foot hose will do. If you find that you periodically need a longer hose for occasional chores, purchase a second hose, keep it in storage, and join them together when needed. Not only will your hoses last longer but a shorter hose will be easier to maneuver around the yard.

Next on our checklist is the hose diameter. Most common garden hoses are 1/2-inch, 5/8-inches or 3/4-inches in diameter. This measurement indicates the width of the hose on the *inside*. The bigger the diameter, the more water the hose will carry, and the less time it will take to, for example, fill a bucket. A bigger diameter also means more water pressure.

Ask yourself, "What chores is this hose going to be asked to perform?" For light-duty garden tasks such as watering containers or hanging baskets, a 1/2-inch garden hose should be sufficient. This hose will also be the lightest in weight, if that is a consideration for you. For this size hose, you should limit the length to 50 feet, as water pressure falls the further it has to travel.

For chores that require more water pressure, such as connecting to garden sprinklers and washing cars, you should consider a 5/8-inch hose. This diameter is a nice compromise between the largest and smallest. You get better water pressure, but it's not as heavy as



PHOTO CREDIT: ALABAMA EXTENSION VIA FLICKR CREATIVE COMMONS

a 3/4-inch hose.

Three-quarter-inch hoses are often used for construction projects and may be known as "contractor duty." They are also the heaviest in weight, but if you have a task that needs some serious water pressure, this is the one that will get it done.

Now we move on to durability. That's where "duty" comes in, and just about every hose has a classification of either light-, medium- or heavy-duty. You may even see terms like premium-, contractor-, super- or some other classification, but it's all related to a hose's durability. As you would expect, light-duty hoses are less durable, but they are lighter in weight and easier to wind-up and store. Heavy-duty hoses are just the opposite, but they can handle more water pressure (like from a pressure washer) because they have

thick walls and are very sturdy. They will also handle the elements better and therefore last longer without sustaining damage.

The "duty" rating you choose for your hose needs to take into account your abilities. Yes, a hose that lasts longer sounds great, but if you struggle to carry it around the yard every time you use it, you may change your mind. If a light-duty hose is best for your situation, just accept the fact that it won't last as long.

Another factor to consider in your hose is flexibility. Yes, all hoses are flexible to some degree, but some are more flexible than others. A stiffer hose is less likely to kink, but that same quality will make it harder to move around the garden. A more flexible hose is easier to move around plants and corners, but is more likely to kink. Consider your specific situa-

tion. If you have a yard with a lot of potted plants or if you have to snake your hose through numerous twists and turns, you should choose one that is more flexible. If you have a larger yard or if your path is generally straight, you can opt for one that is less flexible. For most of us, a hose that has some of both qualities will offer the best results. When you're shopping for a hose, test it by bending it into a "U". If it kinks easily, look for another one until you find one that seems flexible enough to suit your needs. A reinforced rubber hose works well for general use and is less likely to kink. Ultimately, you need to decide whether anti-kinking or flexibility is more important to your needs and choose a hose that has those qualities.

Speaking of flexibility, let's talk about what the weather does to your hose. Heat and cold will cause it to contract and expand. Over time, the materials used in your hose will become brittle, leading to cracks and damage. The more your hose is exposed to the elements, the shorter its lifespan will be.

Of course, your hose needs to be outside for it to be of any use to you. But, chances are you don't use it during the rainy winter months. If that is the case, drain it, coil it up and move it into a garage or basement. Storing your hose from November through February equates to a 33% reduction in the amount of exposure your hose receives. That will definitely



If you're not into "kinky."

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increase its lifespan.

Sun is also hard on your hose. If possible, coil your hose in a shady spot, under an eave, or under a deck when not in use. You could also purchase a hose reel, which would wind your hose inside a box and protect it from the sun. They also help keep your hose from getting tangled up, which hoses seem to do so easily when coiled on the ground.

Another place that hoses fail is at the couplings, the spot where your hose attaches to a water supply (the faucet) or a sprayer attachment or sprinkler. No matter how good the hose is, if it is leaking at the couplings, it's not doing its job. Couplings on hoses are either plastic or metal (usually brass). Metal couplings will last longer, but may be harder to tighten onto the spigot. If you have limited hand strength, look for an ergonomically shaped coupling, which is usually plastic. If you prefer metal, a good pair of pliers will help you tighten the coupling to the faucet. Just be careful not to damage the hose. When it comes to couplings, don't go for the cheapest option. When they fail, the hose is practically useless.

Another type of hose that should



Keeping your hose out of the sun when not in use will extend its life.

PHOTO CREDIT: RUSTY CLARK VIA FLICKR CREATIVE COMMONS

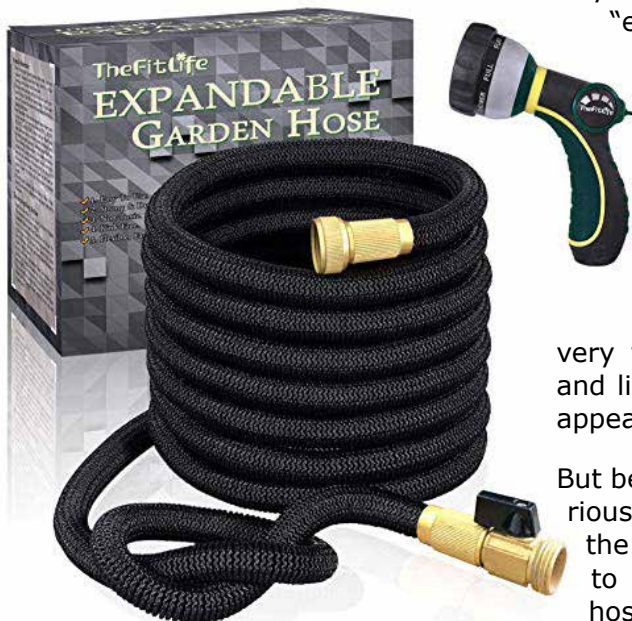
be mentioned is one you have probably seen advertised on TV. Going by several different names, they are usually referred to as "expandable" or "retractable" hoses. They have a cloth exterior and a plastic hose inside. These hoses are lightweight, recoil when the water is shut off, and promise to be kink and tangle-free. And they may very well be. For light duty and limited use, these hoses appear to do well.

But before you invest any serious money in them, read the reviews. According to some, over time, the hose may stretch out and no longer recoil. The inner hose, itself, seems particu-

larly vulnerable to prolonged pressure. There are numerous videos on YouTube showing how these hoses fail if exposed to a lot of sun or heat, causing them to burst.

For limited use, short distances and occasional watering, this type of hose may be adequate. If you purchase one, be sure to turn off the water and release the pressure after each use. That may increase its life. But for heavier use or constant exposure to the elements, you're better off with a standard vinyl or rubber hose.

One other thing to consider, not related to a hose's durability, is whether you use your hose for drinking or filling pet bowls. We all remember, as kids, taking a satisfying slurp from the hose on a hot summer day. But both rubber and vinyl hoses leach chemicals that



An expandable hose might be sufficient for light duty and limited use.

PHOTO CREDIT: KARLA YOUNG VIA FLICKR CREATIVE COMMONS



A hose with a plastic coupling.

will be flushed out with the water. If you use your hose for drinking, get one that's designated boat, marine or recreational. They have a plastic lining that makes the water they transmit safe for drinking.

As you can see, how well a hose performs is often determined by our choices. When you walk past a line-up of hoses at your local garden center, it is tempting to buy the least expensive. Instead, take the time to determine your needs and your habits, and purchase a hose that meets those criteria. Then, make the effort to protect your hose from the elements. The result will be a garden utensil that serves you well, saves you money and has fewer problems. You've just turned your bane into a blessing, and we could all use a few more of those!



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DRIP CITY!

Tired of dragging that hose behind you? If you're up for a little DIYing, a Garden Irrigation System can help you get water from point A to point B... and C, D & E!

by Ron Dunevant

In the Pacific Northwest we are blessed a climate that is nearly perfect for the gardener. For much of the year, Mother Nature takes care of the watering chores, keeping our lawns green, our plants blooming and our veggies growing. But as the days of spring wind down and summer approaches, those rainy days become fewer and the temperatures begin to climb. It is not unusual to have weeks -- and in extreme conditions, months -- when nary a drop falls from the heavens. It is then that

we dutiful gardeners head out, dragging our hoses behind us, and perform the chore ourselves.

There are alternatives, however, and perhaps more than you realize. This is the era of the do-it-yourself watering system, and there are dozens of brands and configurations to choose from, each of which can be customized to the specific needs of your garden and your budget. If you have a little time and a basic ability, you can create a garden watering system that practically

runs itself. So, what is a watering system and how does it work?

Even the most casual gardener should be familiar with the soaker hose. This is a hose that is punctured with small holes throughout the entire length. Instead of carrying the water to the end of the hose and then attaching a nozzle or sprinkler, the soaker hose allows water to drip straight into the soil near your plants. The benefit is obvious: water distribution is controlled

and confined to the area around the hose. No more watering the sidewalk or flooding low points. The soaker hose distributes just enough water to allow the soil to soak it up, taking it to the roots and keeping it off of foliage and away from areas with no plants. This helps prevent disease, reduces weeds and saves water.

Setting up a soaker hose is easy, but you're limited to one line that has to snake around each plant. The result may be that some plants are left "out of the loop" or other plants get double-watered, as the hose crisscrosses back and forth. The watering system uses this same concept, but adds a level of customization. Instead of dripping water uniformly along the entire length of the hose, you decide where and how the water will be dispersed. This is accomplished by branching off auxiliary lines to go directly to the plants and selecting which kind of watering device will be used. Once set up, the system stays in place. No more dragging the hose around! When installed properly, these systems give your plants consistent moisture, producing better harvests and more blooms. (They can also be used to water hanging and potted plants, if they are along the route.)

These systems are easily installed by the average gardener, but because of the variables in the design, it is essential that you measure and plan the route of the system before you purchase a kit. That way, you will be sure to have enough connectors, sprinkler heads and hose to meet your needs. Most of these kits have a number of features in common: They can run in price from around \$20 to about \$70. The included hose comes in lengths of 50 or 100 feet, with some offering odd lengths such as 82, 130, and 138 feet. There is also a wide assortment of attachments included, with some kits containing over a hundred pieces such as connectors, stakes, sprinklers, sprayers

and drippers. Most of these systems can be installed in a couple of hours and require very few tools, sometimes just a pair of scissors. The hoses can run above ground, so it is not necessary to dig trenches (although you can bury or cover the supply hose if you want to).

One specification to note is the size of the tubing. Some kits offer 1/2-inch tubing for the main line while others offer 1/4-inch tubing. Generally, the larger tubing

will offer more water pressure and will give a more consistent rate of watering, even at the end of the line. Many kits offer both sizes, and you would use the larger tubing as the main feed, with the smaller tubing branching off to plants that are several feet away from the main line. If you intend to water many plants or if your garden runs a considerable distance, you may get better performance with kits that offer the 1/2-inch tubing.



Rain Bird Micro Spray Attachment

PHOTO CREDIT: RAIN BIRD/AMAZON.COM

Rain Bird Drip Irrigation Water Gardening Kit



PHOTO CREDIT: RAIN BIRD/AMAZON.COM

While the general characteristics of a watering system are the same, the specific features can vary. Some systems offer a main line with perforations at regular intervals, say every 12 inches. Other require you to cut the main line and insert a "T" from which you branch off a line with a sprinkler head. Both have benefits, but if your plants are positioned irregularly, you may prefer to create your own branches. (Note that this may increase the chance that your system comes apart at the junctions, so read the reviews and tips.) Some offer different types of sprinkler heads while

others have one type that can be adjusted to different spray configurations. Knowing how many plants you intend to water and how much water they will require is the key to creating a system that adequately fulfills the needs of each individual plant.

Let's take a look at a few of the systems available and see what you get for your money.

Rain Bird LNDDRIPKIT Drip Irrigation Landscape & Garden Watering Kit with Drippers, Micro-Bubblers and Micro-Sprays - \$52.95

on the Rain Bird website; \$64.83 on Amazon

Rain Bird is probably a name you are familiar with, and this kit contains 108 pieces that include a 25 PSI pressure regulator, a backflow preventer, 50 feet of 1/2-inch and 50 feet of 1/4-inch tubing. This set has ten 1-gallon-per-hour drippers, ten 2 gallon-per-hour drippers, two 360° staked micro-bubblers, two 180° staked riser micro-sprays, and two 360° staked riser micro-sprays. That's a total of 26 water outlets.

The majority of reviewers found this product to be good, giving it 4.4 out of 5 stars. One reviewer, clearly pleased, stated, "I am a 61 year old woman, and I did every bit of this kit installation myself. Easily understandable instructions, you can do it!"

King Do Way 82Ft/25M Drip Irrigation Kits Garden Watering System - \$24.99 on Amazon; a similar product on the King Do Way website sells for \$21.55

This kit offers 25 meters (82 feet) of 1/4-inch PVC tube. It comes with 20 misting nozzles, ten adjustable drippers, and ten sprinkler emitters. Each 360° rotating water spray nozzle can be adjusted individually by turning the drip irrigation head counter-clockwise to increase the drip flow, or clockwise to decrease the flow. While this kit did not offer a timer, a similar product on the King Do Way website contains 20 meters of tubing, 30 micro water droppers and a battery operated timer.

This combination also features a two-way quick connector which splits the water from the faucet into two directions to increase water flow. This may help increase the pressure in the system needed because of the 1/4-inch hose. It received 4.2 out of 5 stars on Amazon, with 75% giving it five stars. A reviewer felt the product was "simple and elegant," claiming, "I have installed 12 sprinklers. 9 blue and 3 red. I like the easiness of adjusting the blue sprinkler's watering radius."

Flantor Garden Irrigation System, 1/4" Blank Distribution Tubing Watering Drip Kit - \$63.90 on Amazon

(Flantor, the producer of this kit, does not appear to have its own website. The details on Amazon are less specific than some



King Do Way Garden Watering System

PHOTO CREDIT: KING DO WAY/AMAZON.COM

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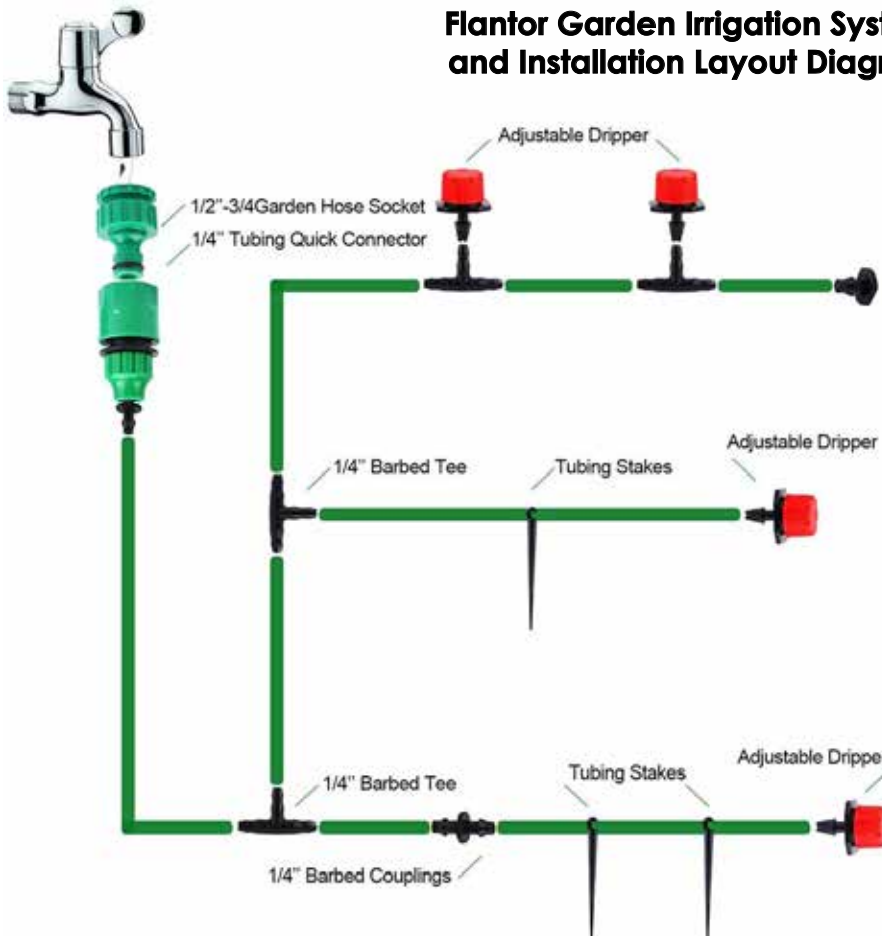
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Flantor Garden Irrigation System and Installation Layout Diagram



other products, so total number of items is estimated based on a photograph on Amazon.com.)

This kit features both 1/2-inch and 1/4 inch tubing, although it does not specify how much of each kind there is. A fair bet: 50-feet of each. According to the information on Amazon, "the newly upgraded 1/2-inch large tube has enough water pressure to make every dripper work normally. The thick water pipe makes the water flow bigger and reaches the end more quickly."

There are 20 "T" connectors from which to run your 1/4-inch tubing to the 20 included drippers. However, a picture indicates the drippers may have the ability to spray in eight directions at different rates.

This set received 3.7 out of 5 stars, with 48% giving it the top rating. A reviewer warned that "the 1/2" tubing is 3/8". Don't expect to be able to combine this with an existing system or tubing from your local home center." They were, however, happy with the system and felt the tubing was of good quality.

KingSo Drip Irrigation Kit with Timer 82ft/25M Irrigation System with Timer - \$33.99 on Amazon

(KingSo, while it has a website, does not offer any information about its watering products, so total number of items is estimated based on a photograph on Amazon.com.)

This set contains 82 feet of 1/4-inch PVC tubing, 30 support stakes, and 20 adjustable drippers which can be adjusted for minimum, medium or maximum flow which mimic the dripper/bubbler/sprayer features offered in some other kits. It also includes a timer and a hose connector that splits into two different lines.

The main line hose must be cut

and a "T" added in where desired to reach the plant. Since there is only one type of dripper, each outlet will be the same setup.

84% of reviewers gave this system five stars, with an overall score of 4.5 out of 5. Most were completely satisfied with the product, but one warned, "Unless your plants are close to your water source, you'll need to purchase an extra coil of tubing."

So, what did we learn from all of this? First, these kits are made by many different companies, some more well-known than others, and there are a lot of choices when it comes to what is included in each kit. That underscores the need for you to do your homework before making a purchase. Weather conditions, especially heat and sunlight, will take their toll on any product, so factor in quality along with price. Be sure you are getting enough of each type of sprayer/dripper for your needs, and, if you might need to add onto the kit, make sure they have options to buy additional pieces or that the hose size will accommodate other brands. Also, read the reviews. Of course, you will find people who are unhappy with any product. But, look at the reasons why they are unhappy. A one-star review claimed that the hoses were not 1/2-inch and 1/4-inch, but instead was "8mm and 4mm." This may make it difficult to add or replace pieces with anything manufactured by another company.

Overall, if you regularly need to hand-water your garden, this type of system will save you a lot of time, will save water, and will give your plants a more consistent and even watering. There are numerous products and configurations available, so figure out your needs before you buy. You may even wish to physically examine some of the products to get a better idea of their quality. Some are available at the "big box" stores. Check with your local plant nursery to see if they offer any versions. They may also be

able to suggest brands that work well in our area. As with so many things in the garden, having a plan and doing your homework are the keys to success.

Installation and Maintenance Tips

Here are some suggestions from experts and people who have set up these systems, to help make your experience go a little smoother.

- Buy an entire system kit or, if adding to a previously installed system, buy components from the same manufacturer to ensure compatibility.
- Be sure to follow manufacturer's instructions for installation and use.
- On the day you plan to install your system, set your tubes in the sun for a few hours. The heat will make them

more flexible, allowing you to connect fittings and emitters more easily.

- Know how many emitters your system can support, as too many can reduce water pressure and make your system less efficient.
- Know what kind of soil you have: Clay soil drains more slowly, requiring drippers with a lower flow rate. Drippers, bubblers and sprayers with a higher flow rate are more effective for sandy soil, which drains more quickly.
- After installation, flush the lines to clear any debris that may clog the system. Perform regularly to keep the system working well, especially before the first use in the spring.
- Drain and winterize your system before freezing weather arrives.



King So Drip Irrigation Kit

PHOTO CREDIT: KINGSO/AMAZON.COM

The Lady in Lavender

For Barn Owl Nursery's Chris Mulder, life is a hoot.
by Judy Alleruzzo



PHOTO CREDIT: BARN OWL NURSERY

Chris Mulder at Barn Owl Nursery

Chris Mulder from Barn Owl Nursery, Herb Nursery and Lavender Farm is *Garden Time's* Hortie for the month of June.

We thought to highlight Chris this month as June is the beginning of lavender bloom season! The lavender at the nursery is amazing as *Garden Time* has filmed there two times in the last few years.

Chris has been in the lavender business for over 38 years. She received her first lavender plants from her Dad who owned his own nursery. Chris said, "The first four lavender varieties I planted were all English lavenders that my father was propagating for use in the landscape: (*L. angustifolia* 'Grey Lady', 'Hidcote', 'Jean Davis' (pink), and 'Munstead')." If you go on the Barn Owl website, you can see photos of those first lavenders still so dear to her heart.

I was curious about Chris' nursery name. I learned that she loves owls and even collects artwork of owls. There is an owl weathervane on top of the gift

shop barn which also houses some of her favorite art pieces in her collection. She and her husband Ed hear owls often around their property in rural Clackamas County. Owls were a natural choice for her business name with a cute owl couple as her logo.

There were not many lavender varieties available in Oregon all those years ago. But as the years went by, Chris planted many varieties that became available from local herb growers and were propagated for the wholesale trade and for retail customers.

She grows a wide assortment of about 100 different lavender varieties from the classics like *Lavandula* 'Hidcote' and 'Grosso' to the newly bred, fast-growing varieties, 'Riverina Alan' and 'Riverina Thomas'. She loves to trial new lavenders and she is excited about these two varieties, as well as a new Oregon variety 'Opal Rain', that was introduced several years ago.

Lavenders are planted in rows on her property to



Lavender Porch of Barn Owl Nursery

harvest for fresh and dried flower bunches and in the landscape surrounding her home and gift shop.

As herbs are also an important part of her life and business, Chris has over 50 culinary herbs on her plant list. This list shows a wide assortment of mostly culinary herbs, featuring 11 different creeping and culinary thymes, eight rosemarys and ten mints.

Chris has always been a busy person and she really worked at two careers for many years. Chris said, "Over the years, in addition to running our seasonal herb and lavender farm, I was in a Masters program at Portland State University, taught children as a private tutor in remedial reading, continued to teach adult groups about growing and using lavender and herbs at the nursery, and for 25 years I coordinated a volunteer program to help educate and support breast cancer patients."

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Garden Time



Chris Mulder at Barn Owl Nursery



Lavandula angustifolia 'French Fields'

Being a breast cancer survivor in 1986, Chris organized an educational program for breast cancer patients in 1987. She retired from the coordinator position of that program about six years ago and uses her skills as an organizer and educator to work with her customers and other lavender growers. Chris is an active member of the non-profit Oregon Lavender Association and served on the board as vice president for three years and as president for four years. Since leaving these offices, Chris is still an active member in the association. "I am now devoting more time to promoting, growing and using lavender in Oregon and spending more time at our herb nursery and lavender farm."

Chris' favorite lavenders fall into the category of the best varieties for culinary uses. *(Check out Therese Gustin's Lavender article in this issue featuring some of Chris's favorite recipes!)*

Chris Mulder is a humble woman and it showed when I interviewed her for this article. Because she is an amazing resource for information about lavender, she would rather educate the reader than talk about herself. So, as she is my guest, I will accede to her wishes.

When looking back on the segments both William McClenathan and I filmed with her, she was adamant about the importance of the pruning and care of lav-

ender. I think it is the educator in her that wants to help gardeners be successful with the plants.

Here are her lavender pruning tips:

- "The best time to hard prune lavender is in the spring, after the danger of frost. This pruning will force fresh, new growth at the base of the plant and on the woody stems."
- "It helps to lightly prune lavender again in the summer when you are harvesting the flowers in June and July."
- "Harvest the flowers with as long stems as possible and include some of the foliage. This action will encourage new growth again and many times lavender will rebloom later, especially if warm weather continues into the late summer and early fall."

In talking with Chris during the middle of the Covid crisis, she asked me to remind everyone to check-out the Barn Owl Nursery website for lavender information, how to order plants and order pickup procedures. Chris and Ed are busy caring for their lavender plants in the landscape and field. Lavender keeps on growing, regardless of whatever is going on around them!



Lavender Fields at Barn Owl Nursery

Barn Owl Nursery

22999 SW Newland Rd.
Wilsonville, OR. 97070
503-638-0387

<https://barnownursery.com>

Oregon Lavender Association

<https://oregonlavenderdestinations.com>

Garden Time Episodes with Chris Mulder

<http://www.gardentime.tv/archive.htm>

"Good Garden Lavenders"
Episode #479 6-23-2018

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/LF-thZcih9A>

"Fall Blooming Lavenders"
Episode #494 10-6-2018

<https://www.youtube.com/embed/KwM0veMspYA>

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PACK UP YOUR TROUBLES

With a little organization and these tips, you can take the stress out of moving and smile, smile, smile!

by Robin Burke



Move much? Don't let the next one stress you out.

If you type "stress of moving" into your Internet search browser, you'll get about 182,000,000 results. Why so many? Because moving is really, really stressful!

It comes in third place on many lists of the most stressful life events just after "death of a loved one" and "divorce". There seem to be hundreds of decisions to make, endless "to do" lists, and never enough time to get it all done before you actually walk away from your clean, empty home.

Do you hire a moving company? Do you do it yourself? Then, there are boxes to acquire, friends to recruit and utilities to transfer. There are numerous change of address forms to fill out, deposits to collect, ovens to clean and mail to forward.

This is just the tip of the iceberg. But, to keep you from going into full-blown panic mode, let's back up and start before moving day, before the week of moving day, and start the countdown three months ahead of time.

Three months preparation for a move may seem like a luxury, but it's not really out of the question for most people. You may know a move is inevitable, you're just not certain of the timeframe quite, yet. Maybe you just aren't happy where you're living right now, or you or your spouse is looking for a job in a different area of town or in another state. Picking up and moving your every possession rarely happens suddenly, so get out of denial

and get into moving mode. It will make your move less stressful for your entire family!

Three months to Moving Day

Lose it, don't move it.

Yeah, yeah, every spring you say you're going to de-clutter, but now think of it this way: Are you willing to pay for that clutter? Because, you will pay for it all over again in moving costs. Clutter weighs a lot, it takes up valuable space in a moving van and there's the expense of boxes, packing material and tape. So, you better really want to keep those old magazines, worn out shoes, white elephant gifts, and broken toys.

Start in one room and work your way around the house. Maybe tackle only one room per day until it's finished. After you have the clutter cleared, sort it. Use three bins or trash bags and label them "donate", "trash" or "sell". Throw away and donate those respective items as soon as possible before you change your mind or the bags get forgotten in the garage. The "sell" items should be listed on Craigslist, eBay or sold at a yard sale.

Give yourself little deadlines along the way. One week to purge the garage and backyard, one week to sort out the bedrooms, and another for the rest of the house. If you have a lot of storage space, give yourself a week for that, too.

Two months to Moving Day

Make a decision about moving companies.

Are you going to use one? Are you going to rent a truck and do it yourself? Start getting recommendations from friends and neighbors, and then start collecting quotes. A written quote is a must from any moving company.

If you are planning the move without professional movers, think about hiring a local company to help with the heavy lifting such as furniture and appliances.

Start a "Moving Day" binder.

Use it for all of your important documents including your checklists, estimates and information about your new destination. This will become your best friend.

Start collecting boxes. You always need more than you think and you'll need a variety of sizes. Heavy things go best in small boxes, and lighter things in bigger boxes. Think about specialty boxes like wardrobe boxes and dish packs. You can often find used ones in good condition on Craigslist.

Shop around for the best prices on packing material such as bubble wrap, Styrofoam peanuts, and tape.

One month to Moving Day

Start Packing.

Yes, start packing. You don't need your winter coats, snow boots, sleds or skis in the summer, so pack up all the out-of-season items you know you won't need. Label it.

Pack books in small-sized boxes for easy lifting. Label them.

Pack up anything you know you won't need in the garage. Label it. Be sure to leave out a small toolbox, you'll likely need it.

Pack up all décor you can live without for a few weeks, including picture frames, vases and knick-knacks.

Start notifying friends, relatives, businesses and government agencies of your move. Change

your address with the post office online. Alert all your utilities such as water, sewer, gas, electric, telephone, cable and trash service of your move-out date.

Start eating.

Meal plan around what you have in your freezer and pantry. Use up things you can't or don't want to take with you. Now is not the time to buy things in bulk unless you will use it up before your move.

Use your grill as often as possible to use up the propane. It is on the list of "Not Allowed" by moving companies. Be sure to check with them about other hazardous materials they are not allowed to move by law. Some companies will not move even ordinary household items such as batteries or rubbing alcohol.

Two weeks to Moving Day

Pack all non-essentials in moving boxes. You can go room by room, packing each up and labeling accordingly. Movers (or friends) will then know which room the box goes into at your new place.

Some people like to make a list of what is packed in each box. Tape the list to the top or put it just inside. This is especially helpful if you are moving into a temporary situation and may not need to unpack all of your boxes right away. Otherwise, labeling the box (you could even color code it) with which room it goes into is probably sufficient. Be as organized as possible with your packing, but don't waste time detailing every item if it isn't necessary.

Start saying your goodbyes.

Now is the time to let your friends or neighbors send you away with a party. It's best not to wait until the night before you leave as you'll need to be rested, not worn out. If you have kids, maybe



let them have a party with their friends at your house. Remember, moving to a new city or even to a new neighborhood is stressful on them, too.

One week to Moving Day

Confirm movers.

Make sure you have all the particulars such as the time the movers will arrive, insurance on your belongings and how to reach the drivers the day of the move.

Pack a suitcase.

Plan the clothing you will need until you get to your new place, and pack up everything else into boxes. Do the same with your toiletries.

Linens.

Have a couple of towels available for each person, but everything else should be packed. Put clean, spare bed linens in a box and label it, so you will be ready to make beds when you arrive.

Make a playlist.

Hauling boxes and scrubbing bathrooms is much more enjoyable if you're doing it to your favorite tunes!

CLEARING OUT PACKING WOES GOODBYES OLD MEMORIES BOXES NEW HOME NEW BEGINNINGS CHANGE OF ADDRESS

What NOT to pack.

Cleaning supplies can wait until the last minute as you will likely need them. This includes a broom and vacuum.

Paper plates and cups. It's much easier to use disposable dishes right now while your kitchen is in disarray.

Take-out menus.

Anything you need on a daily basis, such as an alarm clock,

prescriptions, coffee maker!

Moving Day!

Get up and stretch. Even if you've hired professional movers, it's going to be a long, physical day.

Pack up your bed linens in a box or large trash bag and label it, "laundry". You might want to add any dirty clothing and towels as well.

Your important papers, documents and valuables such as jewelry should stay with you-- not packed on the truck. Sentimental items such as family photos and home videos that cannot be replaced should remain with you as well.

Do an inventory of everything that goes into the moving truck. Give the driver your cell phone number.

Blogger Joy the Baker posted a great idea to make your move less stressful. Put together a box called the "move in" box. Think about the things you will need the first night in your new place and what you'll want when you wake up. Not just the essentials, but the small things to make you feel



good, too. Here are some of her ideas:

The Overnight Box

An air mattress (if the beds haven't arrived or aren't put together)

Clean sheets, pillows and a big throw

Clean fluffy towels

Body wash

Body lotion

A shower curtain

Toilet paper

Candles and/or light bulbs

Your favorite relaxation beverage – Camomile tea or bourbon and a shaker

Laptop computer and all of your chargers including one for your phone



Morning After Box

Coffee maker or French press

Coffee

Scissors and a box cutter

Garbage bags and paper towels

Throw in some breakfast food and you'll be good to go.

Last, but not least, pack the car with houseplants and the pets with their trappings. It will be a fun ride. Before you pull away, be sure you didn't pack away the keys to the new place (from ex-

perience) and then say goodbye to your home sweet home.

Getting There

After a good night's sleep in your new digs, with the "move in box" handy, you'll be ready to dive in and start unpacking and organizing. If that sounds like a tall order the first day, walk around your new neighborhood and take in the sites instead. Find a nearby restaurant for lunch or dinner. Find the nearest grocery store and buy some essentials. It took three months to pack up your home. Don't expect the new one to come together in a day or two, but do give yourself little deadlines so you don't have those last few boxes haunting you from the corner in six months.

Moving may be stressful no matter how organized you are, but with some extra preparation it doesn't have to land on your top three list. Not this time.



N&M

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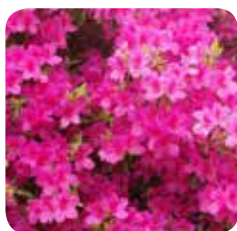
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WTDITG

June is a great time to work on landscaping. The weather is drier and we start to spend more of our time outside. This year, get a head start on those summer parties and barbeques and get your landscaping done early. Then, you can spend the warm summer months enjoying the beauty of your own garden oasis.

PLANNING



- Look at the landscape to see where you can infuse some fresh color. Plan on where to plant some of the newer re-blooming lilacs or spring, summer and fall blooming ever-green azaleas.

• Get going with the garden supports needed for the tomatoes, pole beans,

cucumbers, squash and any climbing ornamentals. Use branches, fencing, a trellis, old ladders or anything that allows the plants support. Get creative!

- How is that garden journal coming along? Now is a perfect time to play catch up if you haven't been keeping up with the gardening notes.



PLANTING

• This is a good time to work on the landscape. The weather is usually a bit drier and it feels so good to be outside. Cut down on the lawn and make a bigger patio or vegetable garden. Create some raised beds to grow the crops in.



- Perennials do so well in our climate.

This is a good month to divide and plant the early spring flow-

ering perennials like aubrietia, arabis, primroses and bergenia. Planting new perennials now is perfect because there is so much more to choose from this time of year and they take off rather quickly in the warmer soil.

- Since the soil is finally drying out it's a good time to do the lawn aerating and de-thatching. Water will penetrate deeper allowing roots to grow deeper too. By de-thatching, you remove the thick mat of dead grass stems and other lawn crud. Your lawn will look a bit rough after this,

but with a good fertilizing, some garden lime and some deep watering, the lawn usually bounces back quickly.

- June is a good month to start a new lawn from seed or over seed an old tired lawn. If you are planning a de-thatching and aerating job, you probably should follow that with more seed. Great month to revive the lawn!



TASKS, MAINTENANCE & CLEAN-UP

- Prune Rhododendrons and azaleas after they are done blooming. Prune lilacs this month.

- Water the lawn no more than once a week with 1" of water. For 1" - time how long it takes your sprinkler to fill an empty tuna can with one inch of water. Using automatic watering systems set for 5

minutes twice a day is a bad practice for lawn care. This causes shallow roots. Deep, less frequent watering promotes longer roots and healthy thick turf.

- Keep ripe strawberries picked. By keeping up with picking ripe berries, the ever bearing types of strawberries will produce over a longer time. Cover

What To Do In The Garden

JUNE

the berry patches with bird netting to stop those pesky hungry birds from robbing all your fruit!



- Mow the grass higher as weather warms. Grass roots will go deeper with taller grass blades and the taller grass

shades the soil against water lost through evaporation.

- If you maintain your lawn all summer get a good quality lawn

fertilizer applied this month. By using Dr. Earth brand lawn food you'll not only have greener grass, but the thatch is digested by the microbes introduced with the fertilizer. Roots grow deeper and thicker with applications of organic fertilizer.

- Thin fruit from fruit trees After the normal fruit drop on peaches, pears and apples, go back and thin more fruit from the trees. If you thin out the fruit, what is left will be bigger and better tasting. If you don't thin out the fruit of ten trees will get into a pattern of bearing only every other year.

- Keep up the slug patrol. New foliage is so tender and tasty to slugs.

- Keep a sharp eye out for aphids and other insects attacking the garden and produce. Usually a sharp burst of water from the garden hose is enough, but occasionally stronger



methods are called for. Dr. Earth and Bonide have some dandy organic remedies against insects.

VEGETABLE GARDEN

- Plant succession crops of some of your favorite veggies like beans, beets, carrots, summer squash and slow bolt spinach to name just a few. This will extend your harvest of the finest food available, the produce grown in your own garden. Look on the back of the seed packets to see how many days it'll take to produce a crop. Usually with warmer soil the plants will germinate and grow more quickly.

- Interplant fast growers with slower growers. Planting radishes, arugula and spinach (fast growers) with the tomatoes, corn, beans or peppers is the best use of space. The fast growers will be harvested much sooner than the longer season needed by the other plants.



- The warm soil lovers can go out now for sure; tomatoes, melons, peppers, squash, corn and eggplants. Basil likes the warmer weather too.

- Fertilize the vegetable garden one month after plants emerge by side dressing with Dr. Earth's Vegetable Garden Fertilizer.

- Apply a mulch of organic compost. Make sure you have gotten mulch laid down on the soil to conserve

moisture and retard weed development. Do not use lawn clippings as a mulch on veggies (or ornamentals) if a weed killer was used on lawn.

- Grow some mint for Mohitos. Traditionally spearmint is used in making a mohito. Mint plants go crazy and can really take over a part of the garden. Grow a pot of spearmint on the patio or deck for fresh leaves to muddle when guests come over this summer!

- Thin out garden plantings of lettuce, chard, mustard leaves and onions. Eat the thinned out plants on a salad...tiny but yummy!

- Plant basil seed or transplants frequently to make sure you have a steady supply of this fantastic herb. Find a sunny warm spot for this tasty plant to grow. Being from Iran, India and tropical Asia, basil loves the warmth. We sell plant starts as well as seed. Try both and see what you have the best luck with.



- Watch for the potatoes to flower. That is the signal that it's OK to snitch some new potatoes from the hills. Yum!

PLAY TIME

Gardening Events Around Town

As state and local restrictions are lifted, some gardens and garden centers are reopening their venues and scheduling events.

The information printed herein was accurate at the time of publication, but we cannot promise it will remain so. Therefore, we encourage you to visit the websites of the nurseries or organizations sponsoring specific events to make sure you are reading the most accurate and up-to-date information.

Thank you for your understanding.

--The Staff at Garden Time Magazine

While events are cancelled and public gardens are closed, spring blossoms remain undeterred.

Hoyt Arboretum in Portland is posting virtual tours and preschool walks. Check its Facebook page for the latest videos.

Portland Japanese Garden is offering "60 Seconds of Serenity" videos on its Facebook page and YouTube channel.

Lan Su Chinese Garden in Portland has posted a "30 Seconds of Calm" video featuring elements of its garden.



PHOTO CREDIT: ANOTHER BELIEVER VIA WIKIMEDIA COMMONS

And, The Oregon Garden in Silverton has shared this video tour of its 80 acres of specialty gardens.

These virtual tours are not just limited to Oregon. Check online for virtual tours of gardens in other states and also around the world including Kew gardens in the UK (kew.org)

FIND LINKS TO THESE VIRTUAL TOURS
on the Garden Time Events Calendar page.

www.gardentime.tv/events.htm

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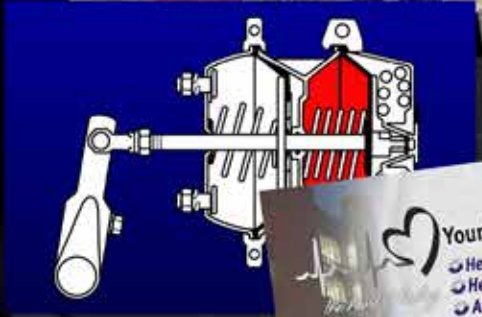
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